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REMARKS


This Preliminary Amendment is being made upon entry of International Application No. PCT/US00/25386 in the U.S. §371 national phase of prosecution. Claims 8, 10, 15-17, and 23-25 have been amended to remove multiple dependency and to conform to US Practice. Claims 1-25 are in the application. Applicants reserve the right to file continuation application on deleted or cancelled subject matter.

A marked version of the amended claims accompanies this paper.

An abstract on a separate sheet of paper accompanies this request.

Should the Examiner have any questions or wish to discuss any aspect of this case, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at the number below. If any additional fees or charges are required by this paper the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit account 19-2570 accordingly.

Respectfully submitted, \


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MARKED UP VERSION OF CLAIMS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

8. (Amended) The method according to [any one of] Claim[s] 1 [to 7] wherein the CSBP/p38 inhibitor is administered with a second therapeutic agent.
10. (Amended) The method according to [any one of] Claim[s] 1 [to 7] wherein the therapeutic agent is administered orally, topically (intranasal) or via inhalation (aerosol), or both topically and via inhalation.
15. (Amended) The method according to [c]Claim 1 [to 14] wherein the compound is 1-(1,3-Dihydroxyprop-2-yl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(2-phenoxy-pyrimidin-4-yl)imidazole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
16. (Amended) The method according to [c]Claim 1 [to 14] wherein the compound is *trans*-1-(4-Hydroxycyclohexyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[(2-methoxy)pyrimidin-4-yl]imidazole; 1-(4-Piperidinyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(2-methoxy-4-pyrimidinyl)imidazole; or (4-Fluorophenyl)-2-(4-methylsulfinylphenyl)-5-(4-pyridyl)-imidazole.
17. (Amended) The method according to Claim 1 [or 14] wherein the compound is VX-745, RWJ 67657, RWJ-68354, ZM 336372, SU 4984 or RPR-200765A.
23. (Amended) The method according to [any one of] Claim[s] 18 [to 22] wherein the CSBP/p38 inhibitor is selected from a compound disclosed in US Patent 5,716,972, US 5,686,455, US 5,656,644, US 5,593,992, US 5,593,991, US 5,663,334, US 5,670,527, US 5,559,137, 5,658,903, US 5,739,143, US 5,756,499, US 5,716,955, WO 98/25619, WO 97/25048, WO 99/01452, WO 97/25047, WO 99/01131, WO 99/01130, WO 97/33883, WO 97/35856, WO 97/35855, WO 98/06715, WO 98/07425, WO 98/28292, WO 98/56377, WO 98/07966, WO 99/01136, WO 99/17776, WO 99/01131, WO 99/01130, WO 99/32121, WO 00/26209, WO 99/58502, WO 99/58523, WO 99/57101, WO 99/61426, WO 99/59960, WO 99/59959, WO 00/18738, WO 00/17175, WO 99/17204, WO 00/20402, WO 99/64400, WO 00/01688, WO 00/07980, WO 00/07991, WO 00/06563, WO 00/12074, WO 00/12497, WO 00/31072, WO 00/31063, WO 00/23072, WO 00/31065, WO 00/39116, WO 00/43384, WO 00/41698, WO 97/36587, WO 97/47618, WO 97/16442, WO 97/16441, WO 97/12876, WO 98/7966, WO 98/56377, WO 98/22109, WO 98/24782, WO 98/24780, WO 98/22457, WO 98/52558, WO 98/52941, WO 98/52937, WO 98/52940, WO 98/56788, WO 98/27098, WO 99/00357, WO 98/47892, WO 98/47899, WO 99/03837, WO 99/01441, WO 99/01449, WO 99/03484, WO 95/09853, WO 95/09851, WO 95/09847,

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WO 95/09852, WO 92/12154, WO 94/19350, WO 99/15164, WO 98/50356, DE 19842833, or JP 2000 86657.

24. (Amended) The method according to [c]Claim 18 wherein the compound is 1-(1,3-Dihydroxyprop-2-yl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(2-phenoxy pyrimidin-4-yl)imidazole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

25. (Amended) The method according to [c]Claim 18 wherein the compound is *trans*-1-(4-Hydroxycyclohexyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[(2-methoxy)pyrimidin-4-yl]imidazole; 1-(4-Piperidinyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(2-methoxy-4-pyrimidinyl)imidazole; or (4-Fluorophenyl)-2-(4-methylsulfinylphenyl)-5-(4-pyridyl)imidazole.